

M'KINLEY'S CUBAN POLICY.

THE BATTLESHIP MAINE IN HAVANA HARBOR FOR BUSINESS.

Consensus Waiting Impatiently for the Next Premised Step—The Cause of the Cuban Rapidly Gaining Strength in Both Houses.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Fortunately for all interests, an American battleship reached Havana before any outbreak involving our consular office or citizens occurred. It was the perfectly justifiable belief that such an outbreak was imminent that took the Maine to Havana. The extreme awkwardness of having such an occurrence when Gen. Lee was without the slightest means of independent communication with the United States needed no second thought from any one, and the proper orders went in haste. The visit was very far from one of courtesy. All the talk about renewing friendly relations with Spain, calling for order to usual customs at Cuban ports, and so on, was simply diplomatic veneering. That the despatching of a man-of-war had been delayed until the margin of safety seemed too narrow for comfortable consideration, and even until haste seemed necessary, that such a move for the President's policy was called for by Mr. Hitt. First, Weyler's recall and the cessation of inhuman methods of waging war; next, insisting upon steps toward securing peace, to which Spain responded with her plan of self-government; then requesting in diplomatic language, but really demanding permission to assist in relieving the general starvation and now the despatching of a war vessel to protect American interests, and holding a fleet close at hand for the next step in the President's plan—whatever that may be, but which is expected to be fully developed whenever the fact that autonomy has failed is generally recognized. As Mr. Hitt's exposition of the subject of intervention is studied, it is interpreted as a method of slow approaches by parallels and the other covered accessories of a siege. It is quite apparent that at present the works have reached the immediate vicinity of the Spanish parapets, and there can now be very little advance without full revelation of plans which all the world will understand.

Congress is waiting with much impatience and ill-concealed excitement for the next promised step. While the dominating feeling still is that the President should have full opportunity to carry out his own measures, the Cuban cause is rapidly strengthening in both houses, and a free vote could now be taken on the direct question of intervention in some unmistakable and decided form. It would undoubtedly carry by a large majority. The despatching of the Maine would have acted to cause general contentment in Congress but for the various forms of virtual spoils which guided currency, none of which were probably unauthorized. The belief is strong, however, that when it shall be made clear to the world that autonomy has failed, the President will feel called upon to act in accordance with the declarations of his message. But in event it does not, now seem probable that a crisis in Cuban affairs can be long delayed. It must come, either through vigorous action on the part of the President or an uprising in Congress which will force an issue upon the country. The Congressional situation is strained to the last degree. As to affairs in Cuba, it is now known that the half has not been told regarding the horrors of starvation, and that there has been no appreciable amelioration.

Every week makes clearer the division of the lines for 1900, and the more the lines of the various planks of disorder will be eliminated from the Chicago platform steadily grows weaker. Last week in the Senate there was the surprise aroused by the Teller resolution, and the unexpected strength which it commanded. The impression created was that it indicated the beginning of a movement to rally on the silver question alone, to avoid the other disturbing planks and to crowd Mr. Bryan into the background. This week the spectacle has been presented of the House of Representatives and Populists cheering vociferously for the Teller resolution, while the Republicans in the Chicago platform over again with Bryan for the leader. The significance of the incident was that there was no pronounced effort to crowd Mr. Bryan's partisans. The assertion was prompted by a chance remark on the Republican side, with the meaning and well-understood response indicated. It was the revelation of a flash light to the sound-money Democrats and to the Republicans as well.

But these rallying free silver forces have been treated to an unexpected sight. The President's New York speech has rung on in their ears, like the voice of a General in command deploying and advancing his lines. If the Chicago and Populistic lines are up for 1900, the Administration has promptly formed the lines of organization and action for 1900. The President himself has joined issue in form from which there can be no retreat. This is the most direct view of the situation. Undoubtedly it was so intended. Whether it will steady any of the wavering ones in the Senate or not remains to be seen. But whatever the result, it is agreed by all that the issues of 1898 are the issues of today, and that they will constitute the financial and political planks of the next campaign.

The cause of the Hawaiian annexation is undoubtedly being strengthened by the visit of President Dole. The sugar influence still holds in the Senate, but the sugar lobby continues to be trotted around to terrify those whose constituents are interested. Secretary Dole has effectively and bravely stood for opposition to the treaty on that score. But the importance of a vote or two to the anti-annexationists is no longer a secret. It has been raised to the dignity of a war cry.

H. V. BOYNTON.

THIEVES' GUN WOULD'NT WORK.

Retraced by Their Shadows, They Tried to Shoot the Policemen Who Caught Them.

Two men, registered on the police blotter as "well-known crooks," made a blundering attempt at robbery early yesterday morning. They were Charles Kavanagh, alias Flynn, of 212 West Ninety-seventh street, and John Barrett, alias Barry, of 388 Tenth avenue. They gained an entrance to John Feldscher's saloon at 317 Eleventh avenue by wrenching off three iron bars from a rear window. After tapping the bell which contained less than \$2, and helping themselves at the cigar stand, they were confronted by the front window and the all-night light, throwing their shadows upon the curtain.

Policeman Beadle of the West Thirty-seventh street station passed the saloon just at the right time to see on the curtain the shadows of two men, with heads tipped back, their right arms crooked, and their left hands extended and holding bottles. He attracted the attention of Policeman Keller who was on the other side of the avenue, and Keller tipped across in time to see the shadow men take another drink. Keller shot guard at the front door and Beadle went around to the rear door, where he found the two men. Each had a revolver leveled at his head and threatened to shoot if he should try to arrest them. But the threat was harmless, for the four revolvers were not loaded. The men held their hands up and the men who held them kept the useless business cards which they retrieved before the two men. The men were then taken to the West Side Police Court.

NEW GAME FOR CHEAP THIEVES.

They Pass Themselves Off as Laundry Collectors and Steal Suits and Closets.

Several heroes on the upper West Side have been robbed of hundreds of dollars in the last few days by a successful trick. The thief keeps track of the route of the laundry collectors and works ahead of them. He goes to the bottom of the dumb waiter shaft in a house where he knows the collector usually calls, and waits for him. "Got your laundry ready for this week?" the servant may have been waiting for the collector, and the bundle is sent down. It does not come back to the owners, and the victim goes to Capt. Prior of the West Sixty-eighth street station. The last one had been robbed of six new shirts, worth \$2 each. Detectives are looking up several cases.

Measure your rooms and care early



GOOD LUCK IN THE RUG DEPARTMENT. We have a surplus of certain sizes of TURKISH AND PERSIAN CARPETS—on the 3d floor—and any one who can fit his, or her, needs to the following sizes is indeed fortunate. Exactly how fortunate is shown by comparing the old prices with the new.

8.5 by 10.6 feet, \$34.00; was \$53.00.	11.1 by 15.7 feet, \$70.00; was \$105.00.
8.6 by 10.6 feet, \$34.00; was \$53.00.	11 by 15.6 feet, \$69.00; was \$105.00.
9 by 10 feet, \$30.00; was \$44.00.	12.6 by 14 feet, \$70.00; was \$105.00.
8.8 by 10.6 feet, \$30.00; was \$55.00.	11.9 by 15 feet, \$70.00; was \$105.00.
8.6 by 10.6 feet, \$30.00; was \$56.00.	13 by 13.9 feet, \$72.00; was \$108.00.
8 by 10.3 feet, \$48.00; was \$72.00.	9.1 by 13.6 feet, \$61.00; was \$108.00.
10 by 14 feet, \$50.00; was \$85.00.	9.6 by 14 feet, \$65.00; was \$110.00.
10.9 by 14 feet, \$60.00; was \$90.00.	11 by 13.10 feet, \$75.00; was \$115.00.
10.3 by 14 feet, \$65.00; was \$95.00.	11.1 by 13.7 feet, \$95.00; was \$135.00.
14.3 by 17 feet, \$98.00; was \$140.00.	

But the good luck does not end here. There is a pile of 25 JAPANESE HAND-MADE RAW SILK CARPETS, also on the 3d floor, to which we must say good-bye this week. These reductions are to make sure. Remember that the rugs are silk, and that there are more than one to a size.

5 by 8 feet, \$20.00; were \$40.00.	7 by 10 feet, \$35.00; were \$60.00.
6 by 9 feet, \$25.00; were \$43.00.	7 by 10.1 feet, \$40.00; were \$65.00.
6.1 by 8.9 feet, \$30.00; were \$45.00.	9 by 9 feet, \$50.00; were \$75.00.
6 by 9 feet, \$30.00; were \$45.00.	10 by 13.7 feet, \$70.00; were \$100.00.

PRICE REDUCTIONS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

A. A. VANTINE & CO., Largest Japanese, Chinese and India House in the world, 877 and 879 Broadway, N. Y. Between 18th and 19th Sts.

F. BOOSS & BRO. FINE FURS

FOR THE COLD, FREEZING WEATHER OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH YOU NEED FURS, and we are offering the balance of our large stock at SPECIALLY LOW PRICES.

Sealskin Coats, \$125	23d Street
Seal Collarettes, \$30	LeBoutillier
Persian Coats, Lapele drey, \$60	Bros.
Real Hudson Bay Sable Collarettes, \$45	
Stone Marten Collarettes, \$40	
Stone Marten Cluster Scarfs, with tails, \$12	
Stone Marten Muffs, \$12	
Chinchilla Collarettes, \$35	
Chinchilla Muffs, \$8	
Mink Cluster Scarfs, with tails, \$8	

Men's Fur and Fur-lined Overcoats, Caps and Gloves, Sleigh Bobs and Coachmen's Outfits.

A special department for REMODELING and REPAIRING into latest designs at ONE-THIRD LESS THAN DURING BUSY SEASON.

449 BROADWAY. 26 MERCER ST. Grand St. Station. Telephone 398 Spring. CABLE CARS PASS THE DOOR. Style Book Mailed on Application.

BENEFIT FOR DIRECTOR CONRIED.

His German Friends to Celebrate the Manager's Twenty-fifth Anniversary.

Heinrich Conried, the manager of the Irving Place Theatre, will celebrate next month the twenty-fifth anniversary of his activity in the theatre as the manager of a German theatre. For some years the theatre which he now directs at Fifteenth street and Irving place has been under his control, and it has preserved a high standard during that time. No foreign theatre in New York has ever conducted with greater artistic success than Mr. Conried has won at the Irving Place, and all that is new and great in German stage art has been realized there. There have been many discouragements to such an enterprise, but they have been overcome, and the theatre is now a high degree of merit even in Germany. In a foreign city they have been the theatre of the future, and the best of the modern German actors have been brought to this country, and among English-speaking theatregoers as well as among their own countrymen, Mr. Conried's theatre has long been appreciated as one of the most interesting playhouses in New York.

A number of the best-known Germans in this city have proposed that the money should be collected for the benefit of the theatre, which was founded by Mr. Conried, on the occasion of a benefit performance to indicate their appreciation of his efforts in maintaining a dignified and representative German theatre in New York. Benefactors for German theatres are few, and they usually mean that the actors had to be in the money was to be put in it in other way than through a "grand complimentary benefit" tendered to the manager. For that reason it was some time before Mr. Conried and the committee could come to an understanding on the subject of this testimonial performance. But it has now been arranged for the 23d of next month, and is to be understood as the recognition of his quarter of a century's work here.

In order to give expression to the general appreciation which Mr. Conried's efforts have elicited, the committee has decided to present to him a testimonial in the form of a benefit performance, which will be given on the 23d of next month, and will be a testimonial to his efforts in maintaining a dignified and representative German theatre in New York. Benefactors for German theatres are few, and they usually mean that the actors had to be in the money was to be put in it in other way than through a "grand complimentary benefit" tendered to the manager. For that reason it was some time before Mr. Conried and the committee could come to an understanding on the subject of this testimonial performance. But it has now been arranged for the 23d of next month, and is to be understood as the recognition of his quarter of a century's work here.

The call concludes with a reference to the success of Mr. Conried's efforts here in assisting to the German-American spirit of this city such an important institution as a first-class German theatre, which will be a testimonial to his efforts in maintaining a dignified and representative German theatre in New York. Benefactors for German theatres are few, and they usually mean that the actors had to be in the money was to be put in it in other way than through a "grand complimentary benefit" tendered to the manager. For that reason it was some time before Mr. Conried and the committee could come to an understanding on the subject of this testimonial performance. But it has now been arranged for the 23d of next month, and is to be understood as the recognition of his quarter of a century's work here.

No Arrests at the Peaceful French Ball.

There were no arrests in the Tendorien precinct between the hours of 11 o'clock on Friday night and 6 A. M. yesterday. Consequently no prisoners were arraigned in the Jefferson Market Police Court for being drunk and disorderly at the French Ball. Sergeant McPherson of the West Thirtieth street station said that this was not unusual, as there had been no arrests in the precinct at this hour in the last three years.

B. Altman & Co.

FURS AND FUR GARMENTS.

TO-MORROW—MONDAY.

ELECTRIC SEAL COLLARETTES, Persian Paw Yokes, former price, \$12.50	\$7.50
ELECTRIC SEAL DOUBLE CAPES, Persian Lamb Yokes, former price, \$48.00	\$19.50
KRIMMER BLOUSE COATS, former prices, \$62.00 to \$98.00	\$22.00
ALASKA SEAL BLOUSE COATS, London Dye, former prices, \$235.00 to \$295.00	\$95.00
BROADTAIL BLOUSE COATS, former prices, \$275.00 to \$325.00	\$125.00

Also in Men's Fur Lined Overcoats, Sleigh Robes, Infants' Carriage Robes, Rugs, Floor Mats, etc.

B. Altman & Co. To-morrow—Monday. Attractive values in . . .

LADIES' SILK WAISTS

Waists of Taffeta Silk, lined and trimmed with lace, \$11.50 and \$8.75
Waists of Satin, lined and tucked, \$6.50
Shirt Waists, of Silk and Wool Plaid Poplin, unlined, \$3.25

B. Altman & Co. Have now ready, their assortments of . . .

LADIES' DOMESTIC UNDERWEAR

FOR SPRING AND SUMMER.

Comprising a most comprehensive selection of late and original designs, made up of the best materials with the newest laces and embroideries, finished and fashioned in a very superior manner and marked at reasonable figures. Bridal Sets, Trousseaux, etc., a prominent feature of this department.

Eighteenth Street, Nineteenth Street and Sixth Avenue.

B. Altman & Co. B. Altman & Co.

Are introducing the

PRINCESS CORSET-SKIRT,

a recent Paris Novelty, consisting of a regular Corset and Skirt combined in one piece of material in such a manner as to form a single garment, and designed by the Paris Modistes in connection with the coming fashion in Princess Gowns.

And in addition are also exhibiting the

CORSET-CHEMISE.

Nineteenth Street and Sixth Avenue.

WILD BILL'S MARKSMANSHIP.

A Little Exhibition of Skill Given While Riding Along a Street in Tokyo.

"The last time I saw Wild Bill," said the ex-Kansas man, "was in Tokyo in the fall of '74. He was wearing his old blue army overcoat, and the hips were two big bunches where his six-shooters hung. He was walking down Kansas avenue when I noticed him. His brown coat was tied to a hitching post in front of a store. He untied her, mounted, and rode down the street as hard as he could go. As he rode he swung half round in the saddle, pulled out one of his guns, and began shooting at the sign, 'crocodiles' above the door of a little story wooden shop. When he was past, and the sign was all over some fellows who investigated the matter, he was back again, and he shot the letter 'O' in the sign. It was just a little exhibition of how he could shoot on the run for the amusement of whoever happened to be in sight."

The Dinner to Gov. Black by His Staff.

ALBANY, Jan. 29.—Gov. Black and Mrs. Black and Col. Treadwell, the Governor's military secretary, who is also his acting private secretary, will leave for New York city on Monday morning to be present in the evening at the dinner and reception at the Hotel Waldorf tendered to the Governor by the members of his staff. Col. Treadwell said today that about 700 of the commissioned officers of the National Guard had accepted invitations to be present at the reception to the Commander-in-Chief. There has been criticism in some quarters because the State officers were not invited to the dinner, but Col. Treadwell says that when the members of the Governor's staff decided to give the dinner it was voted to invite to the reception to meet the Governor some not commissioned officers of the State National Guard in active service.

HEARN

West Fourteenth Street

VERBIAGE vs. VALUES

High grade at low prices is value

These two columns could easily be filled with encomiums on ourselves and methods and space eked out with quotations . . . Such advertisements, containing a bushel of chaff with a grain of wheat, are less expensive than short descriptions with prices.

WASH DRESS FABRICS

"In comparison avoid extremes."

Announcements by some who should know better, in regard to fabric four or five years old, naming, as ORIGINAL, prices double those at which the goods were ever sold, while disclaiming for themselves that "sensationalism" which by inference they attribute to others, might be called hypocritical, and we would therefore state that comparative values should be, and when made in these two columns are, "as of to-day" and for purchases of this season, not unsalable goods shipped backwards and forwards to and from another city.

OLD STOCK IS DEAR AT ANY PRICE!

As some folks advertise LAWNS as ORGANDIES, we would state that REAL ORGANDIES are of a fine texture, with finish like old time "Pineapple," which but few manufacturers in France or America can properly produce . . . Of these we have great assortment of both the Foreign and Domestic, and, not in these alone, but in every other woven and printed WASH DRESS FABRIC, have absolutely the greatest stock of any house in these United States—bar none.

Here are a few Reliable Quotations.

		Elsewhere.	Cloth torn and Dongola Shoes—lace and button
Grandies—finest Imported	20	cents .39	new medium, pointed and opera toes—all sizes and widths
Grandy Carreau—latest Paris novelty	45	cents .69	Boys' Half Lace Shoes—opera or new
French Organadies—beautiful styles	16	cents .25	Buildup toe—heavy soles—laced
American Organadies (sold elsewhere as French)	12½	cents .17	12½ to 5½—former price 2.00 . . . . . 1.48
Fine Batiste—French finish	12½	cents .17	Boys' Enameled Leather Spring heel Shoes
			12½ to 13½—former price 1.25 . . . . . . 88

OF PERCALES AT A SHILLING

The Best, full yard wide, hundreds of styles, including patterns not elsewhere found, assortments infinitely as great as all other houses combined can show.

AT SIX CENTS and three quarters

AT FIVE CENTS and three quarters

LADIES' UNDERWEAR

Talk is cheap—value counts.

JANUARY'S ACCUMULATION OF

Ninety-eight cent Gowns	now 65 cents
Ninety-eight cent Chemises	now 65 cents
Ninety-eight cent Skirts	now 65 cents
Ninety-eight cent Drawers	now 65 cents
Ninety-eight cent Corset Covers	now 65 cents

ALL OF ABOVE ARE

Trimmed with lace or showy emby, or Point D'Paris, laines, Valenciennes and other fancy laces—choice of any style—Sixty-five cents

DOMESTICS.

Bleached "Fruit of Loom"—limit 30 yards.	4¢
Unbleached "Reliable Mills"	3¢

EXCELLENT QUALITY SHEETINGS.

60 inch . . . . . 8¢	7¢
64 inch . . . . . 9¢	8¢
68 inch . . . . . 12¢	11¢
72 inch . . . . . 13¢	12¢
80 inch . . . . . 15¢	14¢

PILLOW CASES

Substantial—made for wear.

PLAIN . . . . . 8¢

HEMSTITCH . . . . . 11¢

Washed and shrunk. . . . . 9¢

42x36 inch . . . . . 6¢

50x36 inch . . . . . 7¢

60x36 inch . . . . . 8¢

64x36 inch . . . . . 9¢

68x36 inch . . . . . 10¢

72x36 inch . . . . . 11¢

80x36 inch . . . . . 12¢

84x36 inch . . . . . 13¢

88x36 inch . . . . . 14¢

92x36 inch . . . . . 15¢

96x36 inch . . . . . 16¢

100x36 inch . . . . . 17¢

104x36 inch . . . . . 18¢

108x36 inch . . . . . 19¢

112x36 inch . . . . . 20¢

116x36 inch . . . . . 21¢

120x36 inch . . . . . 22¢

124x36 inch . . . . . 23¢

128x36 inch . . . . . 24¢

132x36 inch . . . . . 25¢

136x36 inch . . . . . 26¢

140x36 inch . . . . . 27¢

144x36 inch . . . . . 28¢

148x36 inch . . . . . 29¢

152x36 inch . . . . . 30¢

156x36 inch . . . . . 31¢

160x36 inch . . . . . 32¢

164x36 inch . . . . . 33¢

168x36 inch . . . . . 34¢

172x36 inch . . . . . 35¢

176x36 inch . . . . . 36¢

180x36 inch . . . . . 37¢

184x36 inch . . . . . 38¢

188x36 inch . . . . . 39¢

192x36 inch . . . . . 40¢

196x36 inch . . . . . 41¢

200x36 inch . . . . . 42¢

204x36 inch . . . . . 43¢

208x36 inch . . . . . 44¢

212x36 inch . . . . . 45¢

216x36 inch . . . . . 46¢

220x36 inch . . . . . 47¢

224x36 inch . . . . . 48¢

228x36 inch . . . . . 49¢

232x36 inch . . . . . 50¢

236x36 inch . . . . . 51¢

240x36 inch . . . . . 52¢

244x36 inch . . . . . 53¢

248x36 inch . . . . . 54¢

252x36 inch . . . . . 55¢

256x36 inch . . . . . 56¢

260x36 inch . . . . . 57¢

264x36 inch . . . . . 58¢

268x36 inch . . . . . 59¢

272x36 inch . . . . . 60¢

276x36 inch . . . . . 61¢

280x36 inch . . . . . 62¢

284x36 inch . . . . . 63¢

288x36 inch . . . . . 64¢

292x36 inch . . . . . 65¢

296x36 inch . . . . . 66¢

300x36 inch . . . . . 67¢

304x36 inch . . . . . 68¢